



CITY OF GUNNISON PARKS AND RECREATION

Park and Recreation Six Month Report March 2015

A relatively mild winter was a positive for all of us however the continual freeze and thaw cycles certainly played havoc on the roofs at the Community Center. Issues began in January and continued through mid-March. We have temporally patched the problems and plan to secure more permanent solutions to our issues. Shoveling roofs became quite an effort. Fortunately everyone pitches in to help.

We feel that our HVAC issue in the pool has been solved. This process lasted from May until the end of January. Terry Z has great insight in our system and provided very instrumental oversight in solving the problem. Now that our facility is beginning to age we need to be extremely vigilant in maintaining our systems. Our Parks crew dedicates a considerable amount of time in maintenance and repair of our facility. They are never hesitant to tackle any task thrown their way. We feel strongly that updating our energy monitoring system will be extremely beneficial in warning us potential problems.

Our Park and Rec Master Plan process is well underway. The public input process started out with several highly productive stakeholder meetings. These invitees we people who we believe have a direct finger on the pulse of Recreation in our valley. This input coupled with the survey was by far our greatest measure. Our two public meetings were far less productive. Turnout was not very good, even with pizza and refreshments. As expected we had several special interest groups present to promote specific projects however once they stated their position they were very productive in expressing their opinions on other Park and Rec priorities and opportunities. Overall we were happy to discover that we were doing a good job of providing services to our community. We have one final meeting on April 29th to review the draft plan before presentation to Council for approval.

The ice rink had a busy and productive season. This weekend's Brent Carlson Tournament will wrap up hockey for 2014/15. The combination of the Crested Butte/ Gunnison boys youth leagues were highly successful and produced very competitive teams. This is unfortunately the measure of success from many of the parent's point of view. The ability to select coaches from both leagues also improved the quality of the players. We will have a financial report available along with an economic impact statement for the 2014/2015 season at the close of business in the coming weeks. We are hosting a GCSAP event on Monday March 23rd and allow skating from noon until 7:30 on the 24th then begin the process of removing the ice on the 25th. Rink usage dramatically tails off in the month of March as the weather improves. Cory is also preparing our events for the spring, summer and fall seasons. July 4th is now in our court and we are looking forward to a condensed, higher energy show choreographed to music. A detailed report from our Rink/Events Manager is attached.

Cranor Hill opened again for the second consecutive season. Our Cranor staff was vastly improved from last year and I felt much more confident in their ability to run the operations. We had very few mechanical issues with the lift, snow cat and buildings. We actually past our unannounced February inspection without any deficiencies noted by the State. Our Parks crew is becoming much more confident in maintaining the lift. Several preseason improvements to the poma hangers eliminated some of the potential derailment issues we had last year. They have already removed all of the hangers, replaced several sheave bearings in preparation for next season, whenever that may be. We had 32 days of

operation with \$9,500 in revenues and \$19,000 in expenses. Hopefully future councils will continue to realize the value in offering affordable skiing to our residence with a subsidy. A complete detailed expense and revenue report is attached.

Our Aquatics staff has worked diligently to provide additional services to our offerings particularly to our lesson package. They have developed a strong partnership with the school district. The kindergarten program offered free lessons through Gunnison Energy. All kindergarteners were also offered a free Community Center pass for the fall session. Their main goal is to ensure that all Gunnison youth know how to swim. We are again hoping to offer one free swim lesson session this summer. We believe that we have lost our partnership with Gunnison Energy who also sponsored the summer free swim. The Aquatics staff has applied for several grants in hopes of securing those funds. The pool mechanical room has also experienced some maintenance issues and our staff works diligently to keep our water quality and temperatures to the highest standards.

Our fee increases have generated an increase of over \$4,000 in the first two months of 2015. We have heard very few complaints from our users. Most realize that they are still getting a good deal. A detailed report is attached, click on the comparison tab at the bottom of the report to compare to other years.

Senior addition plans will be available to contractors the beginning of next week. The advertisement for bid appeared in this week's paper. One contractor called for information. Work on an MOU with the Boomers continues. Our initial meeting appeared to be eye opening to some of the Boomers assigned to the task. We feel strongly that we need to stick to our guns on requiring users of the addition to buy memberships. We will need to have the additional revenue to offset the cost of operations of the new space which is estimated at \$9 per sq. ft.. Ken has worked on a second draft of the MOU. We realize and acknowledge their effort to raise the required funding however the addition will be a City facility.

The Parks crew is gearing up for a season filled with capital improvements. We are meeting next week to prioritize the work load. Their main concern is to finish projects from prior years such as the landscaping around the skate park and exterior sections of the Teller ball fields.

Our Rec programs continue to grow and expand with demand. The Pickleball folks were extremely pleased with our partnership on our inaugural tournament. They are already talking about a late summer, early fall tournament. They have also requested a presentation to council on a potential capital project for outdoor courts. Lacrosse is another offering that has really taken off. We have offered lacrosse the past two years however the spring program has 77 youth registered. Dan V has a detailed report on Rec Programs.

Our entire department managers are given the opportunity to provide a council report highlighting what they feel has been most important through their eyes. Please review their individual attachments

Sincerely,

Dan Ampietro